

Governor's Family Violence Council Meeting
Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Participating Members:

Jeanne Yeager, Chair
Dorothy Lennig, Esq., Vice-Chair
Lillian Agbeyegbe
Heather Amador for Acting Interim Director Veronica Moulis
Reverend Lawrence Crabtree
Jessica Dickerson for Secretary Vincent Schiraldi
Debbie Feinstein, Esq.
Pamela Manning
John McGinnis for Secretary Mohammed Choudhury
Lisa Nitsch
Molly O'Hara for Senator Mary Beth Carozza
Leslye Orloff
Jennifer Pollitt-Hill
Captain Brian Smith for Acting Superintendent Colonel Roland Butler
Neshanna Turner
David Wolinski for Secretary Carolyn Scruggs

Guests:

Jocelyn Broadwick, House of Ruth Maryland
Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Melanie Shapiro, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence
Erin Wilkins, Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence

Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Staff:

Rebecca Allyn, Marianne Camino, Melissa Bitting, Emma Moore

I. Welcome & Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:02 a.m. Ms. Allyn conducted a roll call and guests introduced themselves.

II. Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Updates

Ms. Allyn shared that there are several vacancies on the Board and she is working to fill those in the next few months. Ms. Allyn also shared that Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Family Violence and Prevention Services (FVPS) grant, the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) grant, and the Regional Navigator Program Grant (RNPG) will be posted within the next week. NOFAs for the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant will come out later this spring. GOCPYVS is holding a technical assistance

session on Friday, April 21 with VOCA subrecipients to provide information on PMT reporting, time and effort reporting, proportionality of funding and new receipt and expenditure requirements.

The Office is hosting two events during National Crime Victims' Rights Week with the State Board of Victim Services. The [33rd Memorial Services for Crime Victims and Their Families](#) will be held on Sunday, April 23 and the [2023 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference](#) will be held on Thursday, April 27.

III. Approval of Minutes

The January 2023 Council meeting minutes were provided to members and guests. Ms. Orloff made a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Nitsch seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the minutes were approved.

IV. Intimate Partner Violence Video Series Presentation

Ms. Broadwick with House of Ruth Maryland provided members and guests with a presentation on House of Ruth Maryland's [IPV video series](#). This series includes videos, tip sheets, and guides in both English and Spanish to help survivors of intimate partner violence through the legal process.

V. Workgroup Updates

a. Abuse Intervention Program (AIP) Workgroup

The workgroup will continue to work through the potential transition to the MOU model for certification. At this time, the 2023 AIP certification application will expand upon the letters of support and define "reasonable attempts" for obtaining letters. Members were called upon to assist with reviewing the seven certification applications received (four recertifications, one for a new location, and two new programs). Certification recommendations will be provided to the full FVC via email for approval.

b. Access to Benefits for Immigrant Survivors Workgroup

Ms. Orloff shared that the workgroup met last week and developed a survey for programs who provide services to immigrants in order to identify gaps in services, areas for training, and legislative priorities. The survey will be sent out within the next week.

c. Stalking Workgroup

Ms. Feinstein updated members on the workgroup's recent progress. The workgroup will meet next month and continue to look at court data around the grounds for protective orders related to stalking.

d. Survivor Advisory Council Workgroup

Ms. Agbeyegbe shared that the workgroup will meet next month to begin planning for Domestic Violence Awareness Month event which will recognize and honor survivors. The workgroup is still planning to hold focus groups with survivors once the funding has been approved by the Office.

VI. Legislation

Members discussed domestic violence related legislation that passed during the 2023 Legislative Session.

- [HB 4/SB 129](#) - Criminal Law - Sexual Crimes - Repeal of Spousal Defense
- [HB 3/SB 185](#) - Maryland State Police Gun Center – Firearms Surrendered Under Final Protective Orders
- [HB 630](#) - Utility Account Holders - Victims of Abuse - Protections
- [HB 411/SB 487](#) - Criminal Procedure – Violation of Pretrial or Post-Trial Condition
- [SB 292/HB 297](#) - Criminal Law - Victims of Child Sex Trafficking and Human Trafficking - Safe Harbor and Service Response
- [SB 148/HB 186](#) - Victim Services Programs – Supplementing Federal Funding and Support (Victim Services Stabilization Act)
- [SB 391/HB 174](#) - Criminal Procedure – Victims of Sexually Assaultive Behavior
- [SB 36/HB 14](#) - Family Law - Grounds for Divorce
- [HB 1171/SB 798](#) - Declaration of Rights - Right to Reproductive Freedom
- [HB 323/SB 450](#) - Real Property - Limitations on Summoning Law Enforcement or Emergency Services - Prohibition

VII. Old/New Business

- The MNADV is hosting an [advanced AIP training](#) for facilitators on May 18-19.
- Members discussed the [Governor’s Transition Team Public Safety Report](#).
- Ms. Orloff shared that she is working on a webinar for judges on recent stalking legislation.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting ID: meet.google.com/wbq-irvt-ypj

Phone: 1 423-430-6627

PIN: 179 597 316#